

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 SSO-00 NSCE-00
INRE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 MC-02 IGA-02 /096 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:DCJOHNSON

APPROVED BY P:PHABIB (DRAFT)

ARA/CEN:WMATTHEWS

ARA:WHLUERS (DRAFT)

-----062229 231838Z /40

O 231822Z JUN 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL BELIZE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 146344

FOR THE CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PBOR, UK, GT, BH

SUBJECT: MILITARY EXERCISES BY GUATEMALA

1. CHARGE IS INSTRUCTED TO SEEK AN IMMEDIATE APPOINTMENT WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MOLINA TO DISCUSS GUATEMALAN MILITARY EXERCISES IN THE PETEN.

2. CHARGE SHOULD EMPHASIZE OUR DESIRE NOT TO HAVE A REPEAT OF THE 1972 AND 1975 SITUATIONS, IN WHICH BOTH PARTIES MISREAD EACH OTHER'S INTENTIONS.

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3. WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON ON THIS MATTER, AND HAVE URGED THE UK NOT TO TAKE ACTION WHICH MIGHT CAUSE A QUANTUM JUMP IN THE LEVEL OF TENSION BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES.

4. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE UK TO FOLLOW UP

ON SECRETARY VANCE'S CONVERSATIONS WITH MOLINA AT GRENADA. WE URGE GUATEMALA NOT TO PREJUDICE CHANCES OF A FAVORABLE RESPONSE FROM THE BRITISH BE PRECIPITATE MILITARY MENEUVERS.

5. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL FOR THE GUATEMALAN MANEUVERS TO BE HELD AS FAR AWAY FROM THE BOUNDARY LINE AS POSSIBLE, AND FOR THE BRITISH TO BE INFORMED OF THIS. A POSSIBLE DEMONSTRATION OF NON-BELLIGERENT INTENTIONS MIGHT BE WITHDRAWAL OF ARMORED VEHICLES WHICH ARE REPORTEDLY AT LA POLVORA.

6. REITERATE OUR DESIRE FOR A PEACEFUL NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT AND OUR DESIRE TO COUNSEL MODERATION TO BOTH SIDES.

7. FYI: WE UNDERSTAND FROM OUR CONTACTS WITH THE UK EMBASSY, WASHINGTON, THAT THE FOREIGN OFFICE NOW HAS UNDER CONSIDERATION A PROPOSAL FOR SENDING OF SOME AIRCRAFT TO BELIZE, NUMBERS AND TYPE UNKNOWN. UK MILITARY APPARENTLY IN FAVOR OF SENDING PLANES, WHEREAS OTHERS ARE URGING MODERATION. WE INFORMED UK EMBASSY WE WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH THEM AS SOON AS WE KNOW GUATEMALA'S REACTION TO OUR DEMARCHE. BRITISH SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED THAT GUATEMALANS NOT BE INFORMED OF SUBSTANCE OF SECRETARY'S LETTER TO OWEN. CHRISTOPHER CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 23-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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TAGS: PBOR, MOPS, UK, GT, BH, US
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